

the world has had substantially its whole supply from Mexico, Honduras, Cuba, and Santo Domingo. Up to within about ten years the proportion secured from these districts was about 60 per cent from Mexico, 30 per cent from Honduras and 10 per cent from Cuba and Santo Domingo combined. Now comparatively little is obtained from Cuba, and practically none from Santo Domingo. The product of all of the four districts belongs to the same species, but there are marked differences in the fiber of the wood from West India islands and that from the mainland. The Mexican and Honduras growth is of a better grade than any other. The mahogany of Mexico is worth in the United States and Europe from \$80 to \$100 per 1,000 feet on the average. The value of individual logs, however, is occasionally very high, single sticks bringing as much as \$5,000."

THE coldest city in the world is said to be Yakutsk, in Eastern Siberia. Referring to this city a writer in Leslie's Weekly says: "It is the great commercial emporium of Eastern Siberia and the capital of the province of Yakutsk, which in most of its area of 1,517,063 square miles is a bare desert, the soil of which is frozen to a great depth. Yakutsk consists of about 400 houses of European structure, standing apart. The intervening spaces are occupied by winter yurts, or huts of the northern nomads, with earthen roofs, doors covered with hairy hides and windows of ice. Caravans with Chinese and European goods collect the produce of the whole line of coast on the Polar Sea between the parallels of 70 and 74 degrees from the mouth of the River Lena to the furthest point inhabited by the Chookchees. Last year a colporteur of the British and Foreign Bible society made a tour of 11 weeks down the Lena, a river 3,000 miles long, visiting Yakutsk and selling gospels in their own language to the Yakuts in the villages along the banks."

REPRESENTATIVES of Japan in this country have been told that a considerable shipment of arms and ammunition was recently made from New York city to the Russians. The Bridgeport, Conn., correspondent for the New York Sun says that this information was laid before the Japanese consul general by two young men who wanted \$500 for the full information. This correspondent says: "This story is probably explained by the departure from here some time last night of about 30 guns from the factory of the American and British Manufacturing company, successors to the defunct American Ordnance company. The shipment was made by the steam lighter Hustler, owned by the Merritt-Chapman Wrecking company of New York. The information is that a representative of the Russian government came here early in the week and bought out everything the factory had in the shape of guns and rapid-fire rifles. For two days truckmen have been busy day and night carrying guns, which were inclosed in heavy casings, from the factory to the steamer. Secrecy was maintained at the factory office when an effort was made today to get a statement concerning the matter. The company's representatives would neither deny nor confirm anything. The story here is that the guns are to be transferred to an ocean-going vessel which is in New York harbor and will take the shipment direct to the far east. There is said to be a large amount of ammunition in the cargo."

A RESIDENT of London is said to earn a living by a habit he has contracted of meeting with accidents. The London Chronicle says that according to a statement made recently in the Southwark County court, this enterprising individual is known to have accomplished five more or less successful accidents in the last year or two and to use a common form of application for damages afterward. The Chronicle tells the story in this way: "It was a ladder on two occasions, a cellar flap on the remaining three. The 'victim' was stated to have claimed £50 unsuccessfully after the last mishap but one. Then, it was represented, he claimed £15 against a publican, but the solicitors he engaged withdrew on learning of his lamentable record of accidents, and the suit fell through. Now a barrister asked on behalf of the publican and the public for costs on the higher scale. Judge Addison was sympathetic. 'I remember,' observed his honor, 'once being in a case where a man used purposely to fall over carpets put down across the pavement to save dainty ball shoes, etc., from being soiled. But instead of my getting any good by showing that he had several times purposely fallen over carpets, a noble law lord, who tried the case, was very much interested in the man's favor and

thought it was very hard that he should have met with so many accidents.' However, Judge Russell decided that he had no power to grant the present application. 'But,' argued the barrister, 'you have power to certify where it is a matter of public importance. And where you get a man of this kind, who makes it his hobby in life to go about and put his feet through people's cellar flaps or coal gratings or to run up against ladders and then claim damages, it is a matter of public importance to resist such claims.' 'If you could stop people altogether from falling down outside public houses it would be conferring a great boon,' admitted the judge. 'That is most essential,' rejoined the other, 'but failing that we are trying to stop a man who doesn't fall, but says he does.'"

CHARLES BEECHER, at one time intimately associated with Abraham Lincoln, died at Marysville, O., April 11. A writer in the Cincinnati Enquirer says: "Mr. Beecher was one of the surviving pioneers of the republican party. The contemporary and close associate of Lincoln, he later became one of the five that with Lincoln first preached rebellion against the whig party in Illinois, and afterward made Lincoln the first republican president. Republicanism in Illinois and the Lincoln presidential boom may be said to have started in the law library of Beecher, at Fairfield, Wayne county, Ill. Beecher's library was the county law library. It was here that the legal lights of Wayne met for academic and political discussions, and it was at one of these sessions that Lincoln, Garrett, Bloodgood, Ridgeway and Beecher declared themselves for, and became the pioneers of republicanism in Illinois. From the library there a few years later proceeded the Lincoln boom that swept the country and resulted in Lincoln's nomination and subsequent election."

AT THE time referred to Mr. Beecher was less than twenty-five years of age, having been born in Herkimer county, New York, in 1829. The Enquirer writer adds: "At an early date, Mr. Beecher removed with his parents to Marysville. Graduating from Ohio Wesleyan university, and admitted to the bar, he went to Fairfield, Ill., to practice in 1855. Much younger than Lincoln, his talent nevertheless attracted the attention of the latter and he became one of the famous Illinois coterie that was determined to make history. He never accepted public office beyond that of delegate to the convention that nominated Lincoln, and a ten-years' membership, from 1858 to 1868, in the republican state central committee. His attitude was always that of an adviser, in which capacity he was the close associate of President Lincoln. His friends say that had it not been for his kind offices the nation would probably have never known of Grant. In 1861, the latter, a late graduate of West Point, came to Illinois and applied for a captaincy in the state volunteer service. For some reason he failed to impress the authorities and applied to Beecher. The result was that Grant returned to his home with the coveted commission. In 1861 he removed to this city, where he lived with the family of Mr. A. Hayward. As the receiver of the defunct Ohio and Mississippi he led the movement that resulted in the merging of that line with the Baltimore & Ohio railroad and built the Springfield division of the latter. He was closely associated with the late President Harrison, and it was through his efforts that Dr. J. M. Crawford received his appointment as consul general to Russia."

AN INTERESTING contest is on between the civil and the military authorities in Colorado. For some time military rule has prevailed at Telluride. Miners who were engaged in the strike have been required to leave town. Men have been imprisoned and military authority has been very generally and forcefully asserted. Judge Stevens granted a writ of habeas corpus which required the military officers to bring before his court Charles H. Moyer, president of the western federation of miners, whom the military had been holding in confinement at Telluride. The officers failed to obey the writ and on April 11, Judge Stevens declared Adjutant General Bell and Captain Wells to be in contempt of court. He further ordered the sheriff to arrest the two officers.

IN MAKING the order referred to Judge Stevens severely criticised the methods of Governor Peabody and the military authorities. Judge Stevens said: "A very grave question is presented as to whether it is the striking miners or the governor of Colorado and the national guard that are engaged in insurrection and re-

bellion against the laws of the state. If there is to be a reign of military despotism in this state, and civil authority is to have no jurisdiction, the latter might as well go out of business."

GOVERNOR PEABODY, when informed of the order issued by Judge Stevens, said: "We will not recognize the writ of attachment, and the military authorities will not appear in court. Neither will we give up Moyer. We will claim that the courts have no right to enjoin or arrest the officers or members of the military while they are on duty. They are not subject to attachment or injunction at this time. If the district court of Ouray is to be allowed to interfere in the carrying out of the plans of the military under martial law, there is no reason why a justice of the peace might not with equal authority intervene and render the military absolutely powerless and impotent. The court made known its wishes in the matter, and we have stated our position. It is now up to the court to make the next move in the matter. What that will be I am unable to say."

IT IS apparent that the military authorities have not the slightest intention of recognizing Judge Stevens' court. An Associated press dispatch, under date of Telluride, April 11, says: "When General Sherman M. Bell was informed today that Judge Stevens had ordered himself and Captain Wells arrested and confined in the Ouray county jail on the charge of contempt, he said: 'If Sheriff Corbett takes us to Ouray it will have to be over the dead bodies of all the soldiers under my command in this county. He has not got men enough to do that. The situation demands that we stay in Telluride. Mr. Moyer will never be produced in court until Governor Peabody orders me to do so, unless he escapes and goes over the range on snowshoes.'"

A TEXAS newspaper recently criticised former Governor Hogg, because he declined to declare for Judge Parker. Governor Hogg wrote a letter to the editor of that paper in which letter the governor called attention to the fact that some time ago the editor had asked him to support Judge Parker. Governor Hogg said that he had no objections if Judge Parker was sound on the leading issues and was a straight democrat. The governor says that the editor could not then state positively how Judge Parker stood, but said he was confident "he was sound all along the line." Subsequently the Washington correspondent for the Texas paper called upon Judge Parker in New York, and, as Governor Hogg says, wrote interestingly about his home, his library and family, but not a word did he tell us about his political views or convictions. Governor Hogg said when later he met this correspondent and asked him how Judge Parker stood on several of the important questions, the correspondent replied that he did not know. Governor Hogg says that for several months he has been seeking information as to Judge Parker and he submits to the editor of the Texas paper a number of questions which he would like to have Judge Parker answer, Governor Hogg saying that if the judge will answer these questions affirmatively he will either support him or will not oppose him.

NINE questions are submitted to Judge Parker by Governor Hogg. They are as follows: 1. Is he opposed to the republican colonial policy, borrowed from England? 2. Is he opposed to the Cleveland-Carlisle "financial endless chain," by which the government was forced to issue bonds to procure gold with which to take up treasury notes? 3. Is he in favor of submitting a constitutional amendment to authorize the collection of an income tax? 4. Is he in favor of completing the Panama canal under the present treaty? 5. Is he opposed to the Aldrich financial bill, whereby the secretary of the treasury is given authority to accept railroad bonds instead of government bonds to secure government money in the sub-treasury and depositories? 6. Is he opposed to transferring the power of the government to issue money to the national banks? 7. Is he in favor of suppressing trusts engaged in foreign or interstate commerce? 8. Is he in favor of reducing the taxes and curtailing the expenses of government to an economical basis? 9. Did he vote in 1896 for the "regular democratic nominees," headed by William J. Bryan?

Some more soldiers sent to pacify the already pacified sultan of Sulu have been killed. The pacification that fails to pacificate is running a neck-and-neck race with the anti-trust injunction that does not enjoin.